The Weekly Ray

IT SHINES TO BRIGHTEN THOSE WHO PAY.

VOL. VI. NO. 3. SHELLVILLE, CAL., FEB. 18, 1891. WE

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The Diamond Necklace.

A TRUE STORY.

CHAPTER VI.

From personal observation I have not much to add to my story, for after the sad interview related in the last pages, I never had the pleasure of meeting Felicidad Romero again; but from my friend Mr. Brown, whom I have already frequently mentioned, I learned some years afterwards the facts I will now relate.

It was many months after her husband's death, before it seemed possible for my friend, Felicidad, to even realize her condition, or the necessity for some exertion on her part,—so absorbed was she in the one idea and thought of finding the necklace. Her friends sought in vain among the dealers in pearls and diamonds for some trace of it, but without success, until the months became years, and all hope by her friends was quite given up.

In the meantime Felicicad gradually recovered her good sense and motherly interest in her two pretty little girls. Her father in Peru sent her an annual income—not a large amount, but enough to keep them from want. She sold off all useless furniture, and moved into a small cottage, and busied herself in giving the little ones something of that excellent education she had herself received at the English school in Valparaiso. My friend often went out to see them, and duly reported to me their progress and welfare—knowing how much I was interested in them.

It was fully ten years after Captain Jackson's death that a young couple, en route to New York, were delayed some days in Panama. Wishing to take home with them some souvenir of the place, they intended purchasing for earrings a pair of those beautiful pear-shaped pearls only I think to be found in Panama. They succeeded in finding some very handsome ones, perfect in shape and size, in all but color, one being a shade darker than the other, not very observable; but they did not satisfy the lady, and they determined to search in other places for a more perfect match.

They happened to mention the difficulty to my friend, who knowing the

city so well offered to accompany them to some of those out of the way little dens, where old connoisseurs of pearls, hiding them away from vulgar gaze, absolutely gloated over their beauty. Down one of those narrow streets, at the close of a tiresome day of search, my friend conducted them, saying it was his last hope. If the pearl they sought was not found then, they must remain satisfied with the one they had.

After many raps and calls at the door, a VERY old Fagan appeared, ill-looking and morose. They fairly forced their way into the the dingy place, where a small counter, running its length, was the only indication that it was a shop.

Had he pearls? Yes, but not what they wanted; his were in pairs and could not be separated Did they want corals or diamonds? he had the handsomest in Panama. After a search which to the tired little lady seemed endless, they were about to leave the place, when the old man, in turning over some odd pieces of jewelly, held to the light a very fine cluster of small diamonds, set in gold. It seemed to be a pendant from some ornament.

It attracted Mr. Brown's eye from the fact of its setting—silver, and not gold, being at that time always used in Chile and Peru. He examined it and remarked on it. Yes, it had been bought of a man from California, who was in need of money. He had no idea where the man was; expected he had gone on to Europe or New York. That was all he knew about it.

But he could warrant the stones, and if the lady liked it she should have it for a most reasonable price. No, they had come to buy pearls, not diamonds; and not having what they wanted, they took their leave.

CONCLUDED IN OUR NEXT.

AMATEUR EXCHANGE NOTES.

A FRIENDLY WORD OR TWO ABOUT THE BOY EDITORS IN THE U. S. A.

Amateur editors receiving the RAY are requested to exchange copies.

What has become of the Brownsdale Leaflet? Was the editor drowned while "fishing for subscribers?"

The typographical appearance of the Boy's Weekly has been much improved by a new assortment of type, shown to great advantage in their head-lines.

We must inform our readers that there is to be one more chapter of the Diamond Necklace; in our last issue we said that Chapter VI would be the last.

In our last issue we mentioned the fact that the Sunbeam was to be issued monthy. This was a mistake on our part; as that paper has come to hand, a bright two-column weekly, well edited and nicely printed.

LOCUST GROVE.

Messrs. H. M. Whitely and C. F. Tilden of San Francisco spent Sunday week at Locust Grove.

Our old friend and former schoolmate, Leser Hale Magary, who left us last December for San Francisco, paid us a short but pleasant visit on Sunday.

Our head-master, Mr. A. P. Theobald, was absent in San Francisco last week, where he was detained by a very severe cold. We are glad to welcome him back once more.

Mr. Guillermo Luebbert of Berkeley tennis fame arrived here Saturday evening of last week and remained here until the following afternoon, much to the delight of his many friends.

Miss Bessy Tilden left us Monday afternoon. During her stay among us we were accustomed to have a fire in the parlor at least two nights in the week. Now we wont have any at all.

Capt. John Wood Wilson made a trip to the Pless Dredger one day last week. He was hospitably entertained by Senator Jones and had the honor of taking a number of that gentleman's friends for a row.

The engagement of Mr. Emil Pohli to Miss K. A. Jacoby of Sonoma has been publicly announced. Mr. Pohli, was once head-master of Locust Grove and is now official reporter of Department seven of the Superior Court. We extend to him our warmest congratulations and trust that his married life will be crowned with happiness and prosperity.

Rain set in Saturday night and continued to fall heaily until late next evening. The creek went booming along, bank full, and many a stout tree was torn up by the roots, and carried down by the roaring torrent.

Mr. Wm. Hopkins of Oakland came up last Wednesday night for a couple of days sport in the tules. Being an ardent sportsman he arose before sunrise Thursday morning and, gun in hand, started off. He met with good luck, but unfortunately all but two of his birds fell in unapproachable places. Those which he secured he very kindly presented to Mrs. Lubeck.

China New Year passed off with the usual ceremonies. Early Sunday morning the slumbers of all at Locust Grove were disturbed by fire-crackers being shot off; and several of the boys, who were so bold as to get up, found the Chinamen gathered round a table, in the center of which stood a beautiful China lilly. On each side of this was a basin of nuts and a lighted candle. One glimpse was enough, and the boys, shivering with cold, crept back to bed and soon fell asleep, to dream about this Chinese custom of driving away the evil spirits.

The Weekly Ray,

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At Shellville, Sonoma County, Calif.

N. TEN BOSCH.....Editor.
B. WINTER.....Business Manager.

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SHELLVILLE.....FEB. 18, 1891.

The sketch of the organization, growth and prosperity of the Pacific Coast Amateur Press Association, which we had hoped to publish this week was again crowded out. However in our next issue we will have plenty of space, so that our readers need not again be disappointed.

That Sonoma Valley Railroad is still flourishing. We learn that the week before last, on one of the evening trips, the passenger train was delayed no less than four times between Sonoma and Ignacio.

The company it seems, was at the time using wood which, being of the greenest kind, would not create a fire hot enough to keep up steam. Engineer Sam Lewis handled the throttle admirably, and his able fire-man did his best at the grate; yet the train, as mentioned above, was obliged to make several stops—some of them right in the midst of the tule.

The Donahue people are more inconsiderate and unaccomodating to their patrons in Sonoma Valley than any railroad ought to be. They have always done so and show very little sign of ever going otherwise.

The amateur editor, solemn and sanctimonious in appearance, gazing at the rain with a vacant stare as it comes pouring down, is indeed an object of pity.

His mind is wandering and runs somewhat after this fashion. Two pages of editorial; what shall I write on? I had about the weather last week. No news, nothing at all but rain,rain,rain. I might write one or two exchange notes and run them in; etc.

Yes, so it is. The amateur editor, trying to grind out edito-

rials on nothing—inventing them, as it were—is a forlorn looking specimen.

We can imagine our brother editors, all over the United States, seated at their desks, the devils cry of "copy" floating in from the composing room, reminding them that there are from one to two pages reserved for editorial matter, and that with the exception of political affairs there is absolutely nothing worthy of editorial comment.

The situation in Chile affords a new proof of the necessity for a Pacific cable. A revolution has broken out in that quarter and American interests are absolutely unprotected. We have no accessible warships anywhere within a reasonable distance of the scene of difficulty.

If the proposed cable were in operation we could keep two or three cruisers contantly hovering in the neighborhood of Samoa, and instead of being cut off from the world they would be within easy telegraphic communication of home. They could be dispatched at a day's notice to any part of the Pacific in which their services might be required.

If trouble broke out in Chile, Peru, New Zealand, Fiji, the Marshalls or the Caroline islands an American vessel could be on the way to the spot without loss of time.

Like the construction of the Nicaragua cannal this would greatly increase the effectiveness of our navy. A nation that keeps as few ships in commission as we do should try to make them count for as much as possible.—S. F. Examiner.

The California State Senate, with its three fourths Republican majority, has adopted the joint resolution asking Congress to abolish the duties on grain bags, burlaps and gunny cloth. This will uphold the hands of Representative Geary in his efforts to secure Congressional action in that direction.

Have you read the advertisements in to-day's RAY? Don't fail to do so.

OF GENERAL INTEREST.

NEWS GLEANINGS PICKED UP IN SONOMA VALLEY.

Its Social Affairs and Local Improvements Written up In Concise Form.

A grand ball is to be given by the Sonoma Tennis Club at Union Hall, on the sixth of next month. It is to be an invitational affair, given for the purpose of raising funds to construct a new tennis court. The invitations will be issued this or next week.

South Los Guillicos, situated at the upper end of Sonoma Valley, is a thriving town. We understand that an olive oil manufacturing establishment is to be constructed there at an early date. In the vicinity of Los Guillicos a great number of olive trees have been set out and such an establishment, as it is now proposed to erect, ought to prove of a most profitable nature.

Mr. T. B. Holmes, accompanied by his wife and children, left on Tuesday, the third inst., for North Lyme, New London county, Conneticut. He came to California three years ago, locating at El Verano, where for two years he edited the Sonoma Valley Whistle. His bold, fearless pen commanded the respect of his contemporaries, the friendship of all who knew him and the admiration of every reader to his sparkling weekly. He leaves in California many friends, who wish him success in whatever enterprise he may take up, and whose sentiments are most heartily re-echoed by the editors of the RAY.

The recent donation of $250 by Mrs. Robt. Johnson of Buena Vista Park, for the benefit of improving the Sonoma plaza, has been handed over to the trustees of that city. A large force of men are now at work, extending the plaza over the former site of the Sonoma Valley Railroad buildings; and the ground is being plowed up, to admit the planting of shade trees at the very earliest possible date. Sonoma has a right to feel proud of her plaza. It was laid out by General Vallejo himself over fifty years ago. Of late years it has been much improved. Trees have been planted, walks repaired, and several additions made to the city pavillion.

The new building of the Sonoma Valley Bank was opened to the public last Monday. The safes and books were moved over on the previous day so that everything was ready to commence business first thing in the morning. The new bank building is by far the largest and handsomest building in Sonoma. The lower story, fitted up with the very finest of furniture, is occupied by the bank people. In the

center of the room is a large fire-proof vault in which are kept the two burglar-proof safes belonging to the company. The upper story is being furnished by Mr. Litzius, at the order of the Masons, and will, when completed, become the property of that fraternity.

We all feel so sorry for little Ralph Hotz whose sweet little brother and companion was called away in the early hours of Saturday morning last The little fellow had been ill but a very short time. To his grief-stricken parents we would tender our deep sympathy.

SHELLVILLE ITEMS.

Clear weather once again, to the delight of all.

Miss Dora Howe is visiting friends in Sacramento.

Mr. M. P. Akers has one of the finest crops of hay in this valley. It is some six or seven inches in height and of good thick stand.

Miss Willie Akers of this town, accompanied by Miss Grace Lyon of Sonoma, spent a day or two of last week at Oak Knoll, Napa county.

The Adventists commenced yesterday evening, at our public school-house, the first of a series of lectures. They will be in town a week or ten days. All should attend; admission free.

Our young and enterprising station-agent, Frank A. Humphreys, has had a telegraph set up in the office. He has already learnt the alphabet, and it will only be a matter of practise before we can expect to see him a first class operator.

A number of improvements are to be made at this point between now and the first of May, by the Southern Pacific Company. Among those of most importance is the construction of a wagon road alongside the switch track, to facilitate the loading and unloading of cars.

The Episcopalian services, held in this town last Sunday week, were well attended. The Rev. Mr. Church of San Francisco officiated, choosing for his text: "To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the hidden manna, and will give him a white stone, and in the stone a new name written, which no man knoweth saving he that receiveth it."

Last Friday afternoon the scholars of the San Luis District School turned out in force. The boys gave the yard a thorough cleaning, and the girls laid out gardens and planted many varieties of flowers. If a few of the schools in this county were to profit by the example of this district, yards, which now look like old pastures, would at least cease to be a disgrace to their respective communities.

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